

1871

1912 Dates J-BK

(1823-1878) William Mercy TWEED

American politician and leader of the "Tweed Ring". Born in N.Y. city. The "Ring" conducted the most flagrant system of spoliation of the city ever heard of (1871). The system was exposed by the New York Times (1871). A committee of 70 citizens led by Samuel J. Tilden investigated and Tweed was indicted for forgery and grand larceny. He was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment and a fine of

\$12,300.18. After 2 yrs imprisonment
he was released on a technicality.

He was at once rearrested on a civil
warrant for over \$6,000,000. While out
for a drive with an attendant from the
Tudlow Street jail he escaped and
fled to Spain. He was returned (1876)
and again imprisoned in Tudlow
Street jail, where he died.